

CITED BY APPLICANT

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 20 September 2001 (20.09.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 01/69941 A2

(51) International Patent Classification7: H04N 9/00 Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario L5L 4J6 (CA). ZHOU, Samuel, Ziheng [CA/CA]; 59 Willesden Road, North York, Ontario M2H 1V5 (CA). ADKINS, Sean [US/CA]; (21) International Application Number: PCT/CA01/00339 107 1235 Nelson Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V5T 1C5 (CA). (22) International Filing Date: 15 March 2001 (15.03.2001) (74) Agent: BERESKIN & PARR; 40 King Street West, 40th (25) Filing Language: English Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y2 (CA). (26) Publication Language: English (81) Designated States (national): CA, JP, US. (30) Priority Data: (84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, 60/189,480 15 March 2000 (15.03.2000) CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR). (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): IMAX CORPORATION [CA/CA]; 2525 Speakman Drive, Sheridan Science and Technology Park, Mississauga, Published:

(72) Inventors; and

Ontario L5K 1B1 (CA).

- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GIBBON, Michael, A. [CA/CA]; 1340 Monk's Passage, Oakville, Ontario L6M 1J5 (CA). READ, Steven [CA/CA]; Refrew
- without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

	•		•
	•		
		REF/	DOCKET <i>Puo</i> 2
		CORRES. CO	UNTRY:
		COUNTRY: _	PCT

(54) Title: IMPROVEMENTS IN DMD-BASED IMAGE DISPLAY SYSTEMS

(57) Abstract: A projection system having a controller and a plurality of reflective SLMs operatively coupled to the controller to receive image data from the controller. The reflective SLMs are aligned in series to receive light from a light source and to reflect imaging light correlated to the image data.

BNSDOCID: <WO

- 1. -

Title: IMPROVEMENTS IN DMD-BASED IMAGE DISPLAY SYSTEMS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5

This invention relates to image display systems that employ so-called reflective spatial light modulators (SLMs) such as those in the form of digital micro-mirror devices (DMDs). In particular it relates to techniques for using multiple SLM devices arranged serially.

10

15

20

25

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

U.S. Patent 5,612,753 to Poradish, et al., discusses a system where the images of two SLMs are projected onto a screen. The two images are the same size and are fully overlapped. In this arrangement there is a one to one correspondence between the pixels of each SLM. The Poradish patent makes reference primarily to the use of this parallel SLM technique for the improvement in light output and mitigation of color artifacts produced by the use of a field sequential color system that usually employs a color filter wheel and a single SLM.

Poradish does mention the use of parallel SLM devices for the mitigation of gray level contouring artifacts or increasing the dynamic range of the display, but the patent does not teach a method by which this may be accomplished.

WO 01/69941

10

In particular SLM devices have a finite black level. That is, the minimum displayed intensity in the off state for any SLM is greater than zero. In circumstances found in motion picture theatres this minimum black level is often found to be too high and the "gray" image visible when the picture is "black" is distracting and serves to emphasize that the system is different from a film based projection system.

SLM devices consist of a number of separately addressable picture elements or pixels in a x-y array. Different types of SLMs employ different methods for achieving a gray scale intensity control for each pixel. Some devices employ a continuously varying analog signal (such as reflective liquid crystal devices) while DMD devices employ pulse width modulation of pixel sized mirrors that switch between only two states, "on" and "off".

A DMD is essentially an array of microscopic-sized mirrors on a computer chip. A post that allows the mirror to tilt supports each mirror. The chip includes electronic circuitry for moving each mirror between on and off positions using an electrostatic field. When the DMD mirror is in the on position light is reflected from the DMD onto a screen or other image plane.

When the DMD is off the light is reflected to a "light dump" and does not reach the screen or image plane.

The mirrors are individually addressable so that which mirror is on and which is off at any given time determines the image. A memory cell associated with each mirror stores a bit of data that determines the on or off state of the address signal. Each mirror is addressed with a signal that indicates whether or not the mirror is to be on or off and therefore whether or not light is to be reflected to the image plane or screen.

30 A grayscale is obtained through a technique called binary pulse width modulation (PWM).

-3-

Under PWM, a frame interval T is divided into n time durations of $\frac{1}{2^n-1}, \frac{2}{2^n-1}, \dots, \frac{2^{n-1}}{2^n-1}$, each represents a bit in a n-bit binary word $x = \{b_n b_{n-1} b_{n-2} \dots b_1\}$. As a result, the value of binary word x is represented by y, the time duration when the mirror is on, and y can be calculated by:

5 $T_{x} = yT = T \int_{i=1}^{n} \frac{b_{i}2^{i-1}}{2^{n}-1}$

The shortest time duration $\frac{T}{2^n-1}$ represents the least significant bit (LSB) of the binary word, and it is called the LSB time, expressed as:

$$T_{LSB} = \frac{T}{2^n - 1}.$$

The LSB time is mainly limited by the mechanical switching time of a DMD chip. Typically, the LSB time is about 20 μ sec. Therefore, the bit-depth, or the number of bits in a binary word representing the intensity of each pixel in the image formed by the DMD, is limited by both the LSB time and the frame rate. For a frame rate of 24 fps, the maximum bit-depth that a DMD can support is n=11.

15

20

10

Each single micro mirror on a DMD chip is a reflective device, and the total amount of output light for a binary word x is proportional to the "on-time" T_x if the optical switching time can be ignored. In fact, the optical switching time of a DMD is around $2\mu s$, which is about one-tenth of the LSB time, and can be neglected in the following analysis. If the input binary word x is simply encoded to be linear to scene brightness, then a DMD chip can be considered a linear device with respect to brightness.

A simplified cross section of a single DMD mirror array is shown in figure 1. Assume the incident light from a light source is L. The light from this source falls on the mirror array, and when a mirror is in the on state the light is reflected by the mirror with an optical pixel efficiency of $\alpha < 1$. The output pixel brightness P can be calculated by:

$$P = (\alpha y + \delta)L = \alpha y L + L_{dark}$$

The second item $L_{dark} = \delta L$ represents the "dark level" of a DMD. This corresponds to the light reflected by a pixel of the array when the associated mirror is in the off state. This dark level is the combined result of light diffraction from mirror edges, reflection from the underlying substrate and scattering from the mirror surface, particularly around the dimple formed at the support post location. This combined effect is modeled by a factor δ and is typically:

$$\delta << \frac{1}{2^n - 1}$$

The "dark level" determines the contrast ratio of a DMD device. It can be reduced by architectural improvement to the DMD pixels, but it may not be completed eliminated.

15 The simplest implementation of a PWM scheme makes the period of the most significant bit 1/2 of the total frame time. The period of the next most significant bit is 1/2 of this or 1/4 of the total and so on.

At certain bit transitions, such as for example in an 8 bit system where the msb switches off, and the remaining bits switch on, that is the displayed code value switches from 1000000 binary to 01111111 binary, the temporal position of the associated light reflected by a pixel making this code transition changes from the first half of the frame interval to the second half. As a result temporal artifacts are produced that are found to be problematic when displaying moving images.

These artifacts can be reduced by avoiding such transitions, and by spreading the time that a bit is on during the frame more uniformly throughout the frame duration. This is obtained for example by dividing the most significant bit into say 4 separate parts, making four equal on-off transitions for the bit during the frame time, yielding the same intensity, but splitting the on time into four parts equally spaced throughout the frame duration. Additional complexity may be

WO 01/69941

- 5 -

PCT/CA01/00339

introduced to further smooth the transitions that occur during a gray scale ramp and to avoid the creation of low frequencies that are more noticeable as flicker in the image.

5 Where full-color images are required, three DMDs may be used, one for each primary color (RGB). The light from the DMDs converges so that the viewer perceives color. Another technique is to use a single DMD and a so-called "color wheel" having sections in the primary colors so that light incident on the DMD is sequentially colored RGB. The viewer's eye then integrates the sequential images into a continuous color image.

Other types of SLMs may be similarly arranged to obtain color images.

15 **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

The performance of currently available SLMs is not sufficient for creating a visual sensation equivalent to a film-based system. There are three issues: dynamic range, contrast ratio and frame rate.

20

25

The present invention is directed towards a projection system comprising a controller, a first reflective SLM and a second reflective SLM. The first reflective SLM is operatively coupled to the controller to receive first image data from the controller and is aligned to receive light from a light source and to reflect imaging light correlated to the first image The second reflective SLM is operatively coupled to the controller to receive second image data from the controller and is aligned to receive imaging light from the first reflective SLM and to reflect modified imaging light. Typically, the projection system will also include a light source and optical components such as a projection lens.

30

The invention is also directed towards a projection system comprising a controller and a plurality of reflective SLMs operatively coupled to the controller to receive image data from the controller. The reflective SLMs are

-6-

aligned in series to receive light from a light source and to reflect imaging light correlated to the image data.

5 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention will now be described, by way of example only, with reference to the following drawings, in which like reference numerals refer to like parts and in which:

10

Figure 1 is a schematic diagram of a row of micro mirrors on a DMD illustrating the transmission of light by micro mirrors in the "on" and "off" positions;

Figure 2 is a schematic diagram of the components of a serial DMD image display system made in accordance with the subject invention;

Figure 3 is a schematic diagram of the components of a serial color DMD image display system made in accordance with the subject invention;

20

Figure 4 is a chart which shows a codebook for setting the pixel values of a serial DMD having two four-bit DMD arrays, made in accordance with the present invention and correlating the brightness levels achieved by the serial DMD with those of a six-bit DMD;

25

Figure 5 is a graph of the distribution of the codes for the serial DMD indicated in Figure 4, shown plotted against the six-bit DMD of Figure 4.

30 <u>DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS</u>

For SLMs such as DMDs where mechanical switching is used, the maximum number of bits possible with a binary PWM scheme is determined by the period of the LSB. For current DMD devices the minimum period of the LSB

WO 01/69941

5

10

15

20

is equal to the mechanical switching time of the mirrors, which is about 20 µsec. For a frame rate of 24 fps, the period of the LSB means that a total of 11 bits can be represented in the 41.67 msec. available for each frame. The number of possible bits determines the total number of steps available to represent a grayscale image, and this corresponds to the dynamic range of the resulting image.

It should also be clear that increasing the frame rate reduces the time available for the creation of various bit durations using binary PWM, and as a result the number of bits available is reduced, as is the corresponding dynamic range.

The contrast ratio of a system is limited by the maximum difference between the dark level of the SLM and the maximum light level that the SLM can deliver that corresponds to a full white input signal level.

The available bit depth of 11 bits, or a dynamic range of 2048 steps, is inferior to a film-based system which can reach an equivalent bit-depth of nearly 14 (16,383 steps) in shadow areas. The current DMD contrast ratio is about 500:1, which is lower than the 1000:1 ratio required by film-based system. Finally, for certain applications, such as 48 fps Imax HD projection system or Imax 3D system using LCD alternating shutter glasses, there is a need to increase the frame rate of a projection system. In the case of the DMD, any increase in frame rate will further reduce effective bit-depth.

25

By placing two reflective SLMs in series the limitations of a single DMD can be overcome through the multiplicative effect of the two SLMs when displaying a grayscale. This can be better understood with reference to the projection system shown generally as 2 in Figure 2.

30

As illustrated by light ray vector 4 shown in dotted line, light source and reflector 10 illuminate integrator rod 12 via cold mirror 11. Relay 14 directs

-8-

the light 4 from 12 onto the surface of a first DMD device 16 at a suitable angle so that the on state light is directed through relay 18 which images the light from 16 onto the surface of a second DMD device 20 so that there is a one to one correspondence between the pixels of 16 and 20. On state light from the second DMD 20 then passes onto the projection lens (not shown) or other imaging system and then to the projection screen.

As will be understood, the system 2, also includes a controller 22, operatively coupled to the first and second DMDs 16, 20. The controller 22 is suitably programmed to provide image data to the DMDs 16, 20. As discussed in greater detail below, the image data comprises pulse width modulation data corresponding to each micro mirror in the array of each DMD 16, 20.

The system 2 may optionally include a color wheel 9 (shown in dotted outline)

operatively coupled to the controller 22 for color display. In such a configuration, the image data generated by the controller 22 will include pulse width modulation signals correlated to and synchronized with each color on the color wheel (typically, red, green and blue).

- 20 As will be understood by one skilled in the art, if the optical configuration of the system 2 results in an inverted or reverse image, the image data provided by the controller 22 to the first DMD 16, will correspondingly be reversed or inverted.
- While the system 2 has been shown as incorporating two DMDs 16, 20 in series, it should be understood that the system 2 may include more than two DMDs in series, providing additional improvements in contrast levels in the projected images. Typically the loss of light as a result of optical transmission inefficiencies limit the number of DMDs which may be aligned in series and produce acceptable results.

- 9 -

A color version of the serial SLM system of the present invention may be understood with reference to the color projection system shown generally as 3 in Figure 3.

As illustrated by light ray vector 4 shown in dotted line, white light source and reflector 10 illuminate integrator rod 12 via cold mirror 11. By using mirrors 21 and 23, which are dichroic mirrors that selectively reflect some wavelengths of light and transmit others, the white light from the source 10 is divided into three wavelength bands, corresponding to the red, green and blue portions of the spectrum. Wavelength selectively reflecting mirror 21 reflects the red portion of the light from the integrator rod 12 towards relay 14A and allows the green and blue portion of the light to pass on towards mirrors 23 and 24.

Relay 14A directs the red light from mirror 21 onto the surface of a first DMD device 16A at a suitable angle so that the on state light is directed through relay 18A which images the light from 16A onto the surface of a second DMD device 20A so that there is a one to one correspondence between the pixels of 16A and 20A. On state light from the second DMD 20A then reaches plain mirror 25 and is reflected towards wavelength selective mirrors 26 and 27 which pass the red light onto the projection lens (not shown) or other imaging system and then to the projection screen.

In a similar manner, wavelength selectively reflecting mirror 23 directs the green portion of the light towards relay 14B and the components following while allowing the blue portion of the light to continue on towards mirror 24. Plain mirror 24 directs the blue light that remains towards relay 14C and the components following.

The output of the second serial DMD system consisting of components 14B – 20B is directed towards the projection lens by wavelength selective mirror 26 which passes the red light from mirror 24 and reflects the green light from 20B towards the projection lens. In a similar fashion, the output of the third serial

15

DMD system 14C - 20C is directed towards the projection lens by wavelength selective mirror 27 which passes the red light from mirror 24 and green light from mirror 25 while reflecting the blue light from 20C towards the projection lens.

5

10

It should also be clear that other systems of dividing the input light into color bands and combining the output of the serial DMD systems may be used without departing from the spirit of the invention. It should also be understood that three colored light sources with reflectors, cold mirrors and integrating rods could be used to separately illuminate the three serial DMD systems. It should also be understood that the system 3 is a schematic representation of a three color system, and those skilled in the art will recognize that additional optical elements may be required to allow combining the output of each color channel into a single projection lens or image plane.

15

As will be understood, the system 3 also includes a controller 22, operatively coupled to the three sets of first and second DMDs 16A-C and 20A-C. For clarity, Figure 3 only shows the operative connection between the controller 22 and first DMD 16A and second DMD 20A; although it will be understood that similar connections exist between the controller 22 and the remaining DMDs 16B-C and 20B-C. The controller 22 is suitably programmed to provide image data to the DMDs 16A-C and 20A-C. As discussed in greater detail below, the image data comprises pulse width modulation data corresponding to each micro mirror in the array of each DMD 16A-C and 20A-C.

25

30

20

The operation of a serial DMD system may be further understood as follows. Assume that the optical efficiencies of the first and second DMDs are represented by α_1,α_2 , the "dark level" factors by δ_1,δ_2 , the output pixel brightness of the two serial DMDs can be described by (the serial DMD equation):

$$P_{2} = (\alpha_{2}y_{2} + \delta_{2})P_{1}$$

= $(\alpha_{2}y_{2} + \delta_{2})(\alpha_{1}y_{1} + \delta_{1})L$

- 11 -

$$= (\alpha_1 \alpha_2 y_1 y_2 + \alpha_1 \delta_2 y_1 + \alpha_2 \delta_1 y_2 + \delta_1 \delta_2)L$$

= $\alpha_s y_1 y_2 L + \varepsilon_s L + \delta_s L$

5 Where P_1 is the output brightness of the first DMD 16 and α_1 , δ_1 and y_1 are the optical efficiency, dark level factor and bit duration of the first DMD 16 respectively. Similarly P_2 , α_2 , δ_2 and y_2 are the optical efficiency, dark level factor and bit duration of the second DMD 20.

10 Compare the serial DMD equation with the single DMD equation shown previously in the background section. Here the two serial DMDs have a total optical efficiency of α_s = α₁α₂ and a dark level factor of δ_s = δ₁δ₂. Since the optical efficiency of a single DMD is about 60% with current technology, the combined optical efficiency will be reduced to α_s ∪0.36. However, the combined dark level factor δ_s will also be much lower than that of a single DMD. The second item ε_sL = α₁δ₂y₁ + α₂δ₁y₂ in the serial DMD equation represents the cross talk between two DMDs and should be considered signal dependent noise. When n is large, both δ₁ and δ₂ should be small compared to the signals in the serial DMD equation and can be ignored.

20

If we ignore the cross talk item ε_s then the output brightness from two serial DMDs can be considered linear to the product of bit time durations y_1y_2 . In order for the two PWM sequences of the serial DMDs to function in this manner the following requirements must be met:

- 1. The PWM sequences of the two serial DMDs must be synchronized.
- Each bit duration or split bit duration of the second DMD must correspond
 to the available durations of the bits for the first DMD, that is each bit
 sequence of the second DMD must be illuminated by any bit sequence of
 the first DMD in order to produce the multiplicative effect of bit time
 durations for all intensities.

In practice, requirement 2, above, typically limits the bit sequences of the first DMD to simple PWM schemes, while more complex bit splitting schemes may be employed with the second DMD.

5

In this embodiment one method for allocating the bits of a larger binary word between the two DMD devices is to allocate the top k most significant bits of each m-bit binary word to the first DMD and the balance to the second. This can be explained by a simple example.

10

15

20

Assume each DMD in a serial DMD configuration has 100% optical efficiency and supports n=4 bit depth. When the first DMD produces a brightness value that is exactly half of the total brightness range, the second DMD will represent the half brightness range with $2^n = 2^4 = 16$ brightness levels. The result is equivalent to a bit depth of m=5, effectively adding one bit to the bit-depth within the lower half of the brightness range. When the first DMD output increases to maximum brightness, the DMD will produce $2^4 = 16$ levels for the entire brightness range. However, since the lower half already has a representation of 16 levels, then only the top half needs additional 8 levels. The resulting coding will have total of 24 levels, with top half represented by 4 bit-depth and lower half by 5 bit-depth. Considering human brightness perception actually has a near logarithmic response, this coding scheme may actually be more efficient than the linear coding used in a conventional single DMD based system.

25

30

In general, if the first DMD maintains 2^k equally spaced brightness levels, a serial DMD device should have a dynamic range performance equivalent to k+n bit depth, at least within the lowest level. In practice, due to the binary pulse width modulation (PWM) scheme utilized, a frame duration is not divided into 2^n but 2^n-1 equal segments, which makes actual code design

- 13 -

more complex. In this example we select 2^k levels for the first DMD, and run the second DMD at the full pixel depth available based on the frame rate.

The actual code value represented by each code word will be selected based on the following two criteria:

- Each code word x_1x_2 represents an equivalent code from a k+n linear codebook:
- The equivalent code value is selected by minimization of the time duration error.

The table in Figure 4 shows a codebook for a serial DMD design using two devices each producing a total of 16 steps or 4 bits per pixel bit depth. The first DMD outputs four approximately equally spaced brightness levels. New code words are selected based on error minimization. The resulting new codes have 32 code words with a performance equivalent to a bit-depth of 6 bits, as illustrated by the corresponding data on the chart. The distribution of the new codes is shown plotted against a true 6-bit linear code in Figure 5. As will be understood, this code design method can be extended to actual DMD devices with arbitrary bit-depth. As will be understood, the codes listed on the chart in Figure 4 are not exhaustive of the various binary combinations available. Accordingly, different combinations of pulse width modulation or intensity data may be determined, to provide alternative intensity levels.

- 25 While this invention has been described with reference to DMD devices, other reflective SLMs may be employed, particularly ones which do not rely on PWM techniques may be used for one or both SLMs, freeing the design from the code design restrictions and complexity imposed by the PWM scheme.
- 30 It should also be clear to those skilled in the art that alternative arrangements of optical elements and SLMs other than those shown in figure 2 can be used to accomplish the pixel aligned serial arrangement of the two SLMs.

10

15

We claim:

- 1. A projection system comprising:
- 5 (a) a first SLM adapted to receive light from a light source and to reflect modulated light;
 - (b) a second SLM positioned in series with the first SLM to receive modulated light reflected from the first SLM and to reflect that light for producing an output;
- 10 (c) a controller coupled to the first SLM for delivering first image data to the first SLM, and coupled to the second SLM for delivering second image data to the second SLM, said first and second image data being correlated to provide a viewable image at said output.

- 2. The projection system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first SLM is a digital micro mirror device having a first array of addressable micro mirrors.
- 20 3. The projection system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the second SLM is a digital micro mirror device having a second array of addressable micro mirrors.
- 4. The projection system as claimed in claim 3 wherein each micro mirror in the second array corresponds to a micro mirror in the first array.
 - 5. The projection system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first image data comprises first intensity data for each micro mirror in the first array.

6. The projection system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the second image data comprises second intensity data for each micro mirror in the second array.

5

- 7. The projection system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first intensity data comprises first pulse width modulation data.
- 8. The projection system as claimed in claim 6, wherein the second intensity data comprises second pulse width modulation data.
 - 9. The projection system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a color wheel operatively coupled to the controller for providing color to the viewable image.

15

- 10. The projection system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a relay for aligning the imaging light onto the second reflective SLM.
- 11. The projection system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a20 projection lens.
 - 12. The projection system as claimed in claims 5 and 6, wherein the first intensity data and the second intensity data are determined in accordance with a bitmap code

25

13. The projection system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the bitmap code correlates first intensity data with second intensity data.

- 16 -

- 14. The projection system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the bitmap code is formatted substantially in accordance with Figure 4.
- 5 15. The projection system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the product of correlated first intensity data and second intensity data is substantially linear.
- The projection system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the product ofcorrelated first intensity data and second intensity data is substantially curvilinear.
- 17. The projection system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the product of correlated first intensity data and second intensity data is substantially non-uniform.
 - 18. The projection system as claimed in claim 13, wherein first intensity data and the second intensity data are determined such that adjacent products of correlated first intensity data and second intensity differ in quantity approximately in accordance with human ability to detect variations in light intensity levels.
 - 19. A projection system comprising:
 - (a) a controller;
- 25 (b) a plurality of reflective SLMs operatively coupled to the controller to receive image data from the controller; and

PCT/CA01/00339

- (c) wherein the reflective SLMs are aligned in series receive light from a light source and to reflect imaging light correlated to the image data.
- 5 20. The projection system as claimed in claim 19 wherein each of the plurality of SLMs in series comprises a set of at least three color specific SLMs.

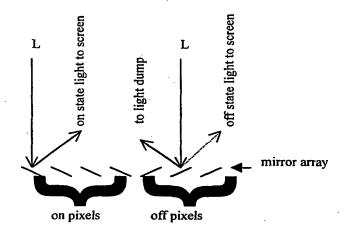


Figure 1

2/5

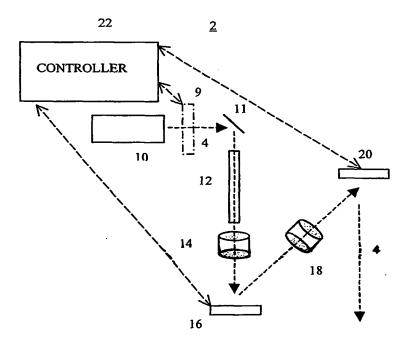
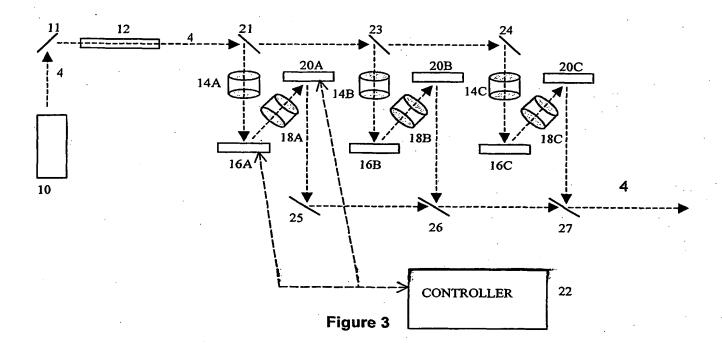


Figure 2



		_	_	_						*54		73			*50			0 ::0110	
15 ls 4	دا				MD	PWM(Y)	501	<u> </u>		1D1 b0	V4	h 2	b2		MD2 b0	Y2	Y1*Y2	Serial DMD New Code	
			0	0	value 0	PVVIVI(Y)	03	<u> </u>	0		0.26667	0	02	0	00		11-12		Error 0
0 0			<u> </u>	1	1	0.01587	0	1			0.26667	. 0	0	0	1		0.017778		0.001905
	_	į		0	_	0.03175		1	0		0.26667	0	ò	1	0		0.017776		0.001903
0 0	_		1	1	2 3	0.03173	ő	ᆌ	0		0.26667	0	.0	1	1		0.053333		0.005714
0 0	_	Į	0	10	4	0.06349	_	1	0		0.26667	0	1	0	0		0.05353		0.003714
0 0	-	7	0	1		0.00343	ŏ	1	0		0.26667	0	1	ō	1		0.088889		-0.006349
ol o	_	Ī	1	-		0.07537	ŏ	1	0		0.26667	10	1	1	0		0.106667		-0.004444
0 0	_	1	1	1		0.03324	ŏ	1	0	_	0.26667	0	1	1	1		0.124444		-0.00254
0 0	_	Ī	o	O		0.12698	_	1	0		0.26667	1	0	o	o		0.142222	9	-0.000635
0 0	-	ŏ	o	1		0.14286		1	0		0.26667	1	O	ŏ	1				0.00127
ol o	+-	_	1	6		0.15873		1	0		0:26667	1	O	1	0		0.177778		0.003175
0 0	_	0	1	1	11	0.1746		1	o		0.26667	1	0	1	1		0.195556		0.005079
0 0	_	1	0	0	12	0.19048	_	1	0	0	0:26667	1	1	0	0	0.8	0.213333	13	0.006984
ol c	_	1	0	1	13			1	0	0	0.26667	1	1	0	1	0.86667	0.231111	15	-0.006984
0 0	_	1	1	0		0.22222	0	1	0	0		1	1	1	0		0.248889		-0.005079
0 0	1	1	1	1	15	0.2381	0	1	0	0	0.26667	1	1	1	1	. 1	0.266667	17	-0.003175
0 1	0	0	0	Γō	16	0.25397	1	0	0	0		٥	0	0	0				
0 1	_	_	0	1		0.26984	1	0	٥	0		0	0	0					
0 1	0	0	1	0	18	0.28571	1	0	0	0		0	0	1	0	1			
0 1	0	0	1	1	19	0.30159	1	0	9	0		0	0	_1	1]			
0 1	0	1	0	-	20	0.31746	1	0	0	0	1	0	_	_	9	4			
0 1	0	1	0	_				0		0		0	_		_				
0 1		-	1		-	0.34921		9	_	0		0			_	3			
0 1	'	-	1	-		0.36508	_	0	_	_		0					100 000		·
0	+	-	0			0.38095		·O	_	_	0.53333	_					0.284444		
0 1	+- -	-	Ò	-		0.39683	_	0			0.53333	1	0	-	_		0.32		
	41	-	1					0	_		0.53333	_	<u></u>		<u>`</u> 0		0,355556		
	<u> </u>	-	1-1	+		0.42857		0		_	0.53333		_		_		0.391111	<u></u>	
	1 1	-	10	-	-	0.44444	_	0		_	0.53333			+	-		0.426667		
	11	_	-	_		0.46032		-0	_	_	0.53333	1	_		_		0.462222		
	1 1	·	1	-		0.47619 0.49206	_	Ö	_	-		_					0.497778 0.533333		
	1 1	_	1 0	_		0.49206		0		_		1	_	خصد			1.0.55555	91 34	<u> -0.006349</u>
	1 0	_	H	-		0.52381		1	0	-	9	H	_	_	_				
	0 0	-	-	-		0.53968	_	1		•	1	H	-	•		4			
	3 0	-	-	•		0.55556		1		_	1	H	_		_				
	10	_	_	-		0.57143	_	1	_	_	1	1	_	_					
7-49-0	0	-	-	_				1		-	4	0	_			1			
	0	_	_	_		0.60317		1		•	1	0			,	5			
110	0	-	1	_		0.61905		1	0	0	1	.0	1	1	1	1			
_	1	_		0		0.63492	_	1	0	0]	1	0	0	C	5			
10	1	0	0	1	41	0.65079	1	1	0	0]	_1	0	0	_	-			
1 () 1	0	1	0		0.66667		1	0	0			0	1	_				
		0		_	43	0.68254	1	_	Ö	0			_						-0.000635
	1		—			0.69841				_						0.6	0.64	10.53.2.240	0.005079
	0 1			1		0.71429		. 1	-	_			_	_				3 44	-0.005079
	1			-		0.73016						_				0.9333	0.74666	7 47	0.000635
	1			_		0.74603		_	_						_		0.0	50	0.006349
			0			0.7619		_	_	_	1	10	_			4			
			9			0.77778		_	_		1	1-9				4			
	1 0			_		0.79365			_	-	-1	1	_	-	_	긤			
_		1	_	-		0.80952				_	1	1	-		_	4			
		1				0.8254		··		_	1	1-9	_	_	_	4			
		1		+		0.84127			_	-	1	1-9	_	_	_	4			
		1		,		0.85714 0.87302			_	-	1	15	_	+	-	. 1			
			0			0.88889		,	_	-	f	H	_			4			
	_	10	_	_		0.90476		-	+		i	1	_	_	_	1			
	1 1			+		0.92063		-			1		_		_	5			
		10		_	50	0.93651	1	_		+	4	H	_	_	+	1			
-			o			0.95238		_	_	-	4	H	_			⊣			
		1				0.96825		•	_	-		+-	_				0.86666	7 5	-0.006349
	1 1			_		0.98413			_	+		_	_	_			0.93333		-0.003375
	1 1	_	_	+	_			1	_	_			_			11.		1 6	
	_				<u> </u>		<u> </u>			<u>, </u>	للسنب					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	 	<u>~</u>	<u> </u>

Figure 4

Serial DMD Code design

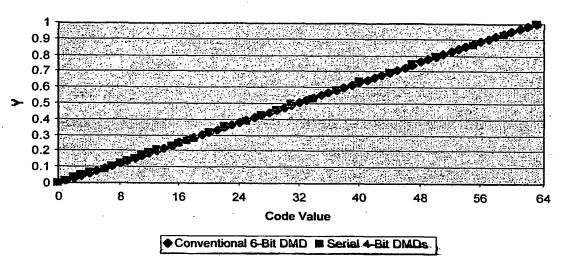


Figure 5

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



- 1 (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1) (100 1)

(43) International Publication Date 20 September 2001 (20.09.2001)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 01/69941 A3

(51) International Patent Classification7: H04N 9/31, 5/74

(21) International Application Number: PCT/CA01/00339

(22) International Filing Date: 15 March 2001 (15.03.2001)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/189.480

15 March 2000 (15.03.2000) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): IMAX CORPORATION [CA/CA]: 2525 Speakman Drive. Sheridan Science and Technology Park, Mississauga, Ontario L5K 1B1 (CA).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): GIBBON, Michael, A. [CA/CA]; 1340 Monk's Passage. Oakville. Ontario L6M 1J5 (CA). READ, Steven [CA/CA]: Refrew Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario L5L 4J6 (CA). ZHOU, Samuel, Ziheng [CA/CA]: 59 Willesden Road. North York, Ontario M2H 1V5 (CA). ADKINS, Sean [US/CA]: 107 1235 Nelson Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V5T IC5 (CA).

(74) Agent: BERESKIN & PARR: 40 King Street West, 40th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5H 3Y2 (CA).

(81) Designated States (national): CA. JP. US.

(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR).

Published:

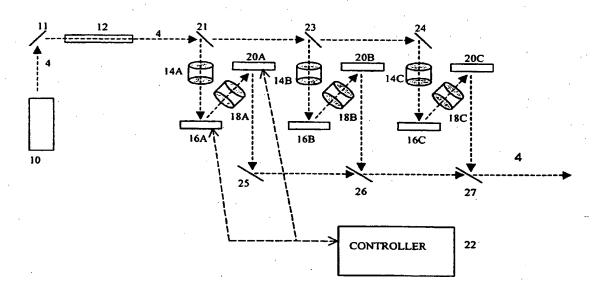
- with international search report

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 3 January 2002

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) THE IMPROVEMENTS IN DMD-BASED IMAGE DISPLAY SYSTEMS

. <u>3</u>



(57) Abstract: A projection system having a controller and a plurality of reflective SLMs operatively coupled to the controller to receive image data from the controller. The reflective SLMs are aligned in series to receive light from a light source and to reflect imaging light correlated to the image data.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intermidional Application No PCT/CA 01/00339

			1 C 1 / C A U 1 / U	0339		
A. CLASSII IPC 7	FICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER H04N9/31 H04N5/74					
According to	o International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classif	ication and IPC				
B. FIELDS						
Minimum do IPC 7	ocumentation searched (classification system followed by classification sy	ation symbols)				
Documentat	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent tha	t such documents are incl	uded in the fields searc	hed		
	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data i ternal, WPI Data, PAJ	base and, where practica	l, search terms used)			
C. DOCUMI	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	<u>, ,</u>				
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the	relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.		
A	WO 99 60557 A (INVISO) 25 November 1999 (1999-11-25) page 26, line 14 -page 29, line	11		1,19		
A	US 5 612 753 A (PORADISH FRANK 18 March 1997 (1997-03-18) cited in the application column 2, line 15 - line 40; fig			1,19		
Furt	ther documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	X Patent family	/ members are listed in	annex.		
\$ Special of	ptoporios of cited documents					
A docum	ategories of cited documents: ent defining the general state of the art which is not dered to be of particular relevance document but published on or after the international	or priority date a cited to understa invention	blished after the intern nd not in conflict with th nd the principle or theo	e application but ry underlying the		
filing of the document of the citation of the citation of their citation of the citation of citation of citation of citation o	date ent which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or is cited to establish the publication date of another on or other special reason (as specified) nent referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or means	cannot be considered involve an invention of particular cannot be considered document is considered in the considered considered in the considered considered considered in the considered	cular relevance; the cla- lered novel or cannot be ive step when the docu- cular relevance; the cla- lered to involve an inve- abined with one or more abination being obvious	e considered to ment is taken alone inded invention ntive step when the other such docu-		
latert	ent published prior to the international filing date but than the priority date claimed	*&* document membe	&* document member of the same patent family			
	actual completion of the international search 5 October 2001	Date of mailing of 12/10/	f the international searc	ch report		
	mailing address of the ISA	Authorized office				
	European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Pignie	z, T			

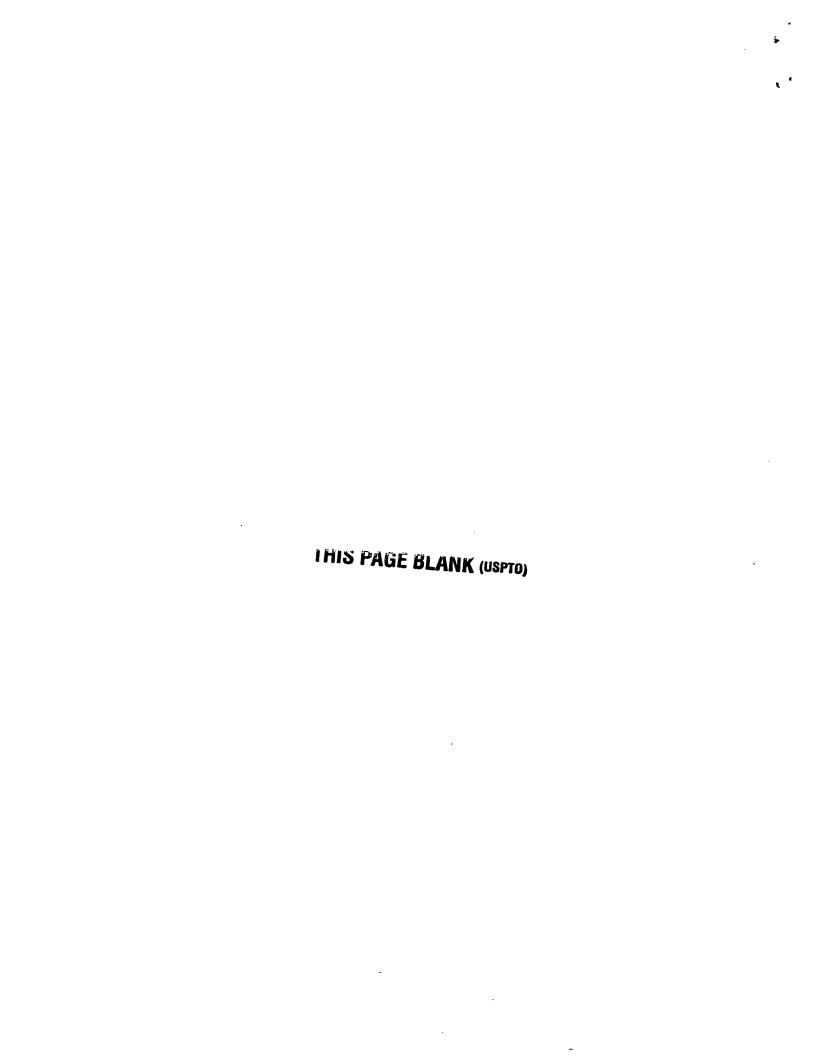
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

tnts...atlonal Application No
PCT/CA 01/00339

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date	:
WO 9960557	A	25-11-1999	AU	3993399 A	06-12-1999	
NO 330000,			EP	1084488 A1	21-03-2001	
			WO	9960557 A1	25-11-1999	
	•		US	6140983 A	31-10-2000	
US 5612753	Α	18-03-1997	US	5905545 A	18-05-1999	

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (July 1992)



This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning Operations and is not part of the Official Record

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:
BLACK BORDERS
☐ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
☐ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
☐ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
☐ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
☐ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.

